

Judge Thomas J. Devine Home
San Antonio, Texas

HABS No. Tex-332

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Texas-3

Historic American Buildings Survey
Bartlett Cocke, District Officer
615 Maverick Bldg., San Antonio, Texas

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JUDGE THOMAS J. DEVINE HOME
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Present Owner: Mrs. Helen Smith

Date of Erection: 1849-50-80

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Thomas J. Devine

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: One with partial cellar

Materials of Construction: Limestone, cypress, brick and plaster.

Other Existing Records: None

Additional Data:

The house was built by Judge Thomas J. Devine, a prominent lawyer of his time. He enjoyed several distinctions, such as Justice of the Peace, Judge of District and Supreme Courts.

Although being of Irish decent and having the typical Irish temper, he never had trouble and he never carried a gun, even in those unsettled times during and after the war. His daughter, Helen Smith, his granddaughter, Mrs. Cassien and her children live in the home now.

The house contains many interesting pieces of hand-made furniture. A piano belonging to Mrs. Devine was brought from Kentucky by ox cart.

The city of Devine, Texas, was named in honor of Judge Devine.

The house has thirteen rooms, front porch across the front and a rear porch. The house was built in the shape of the letter "U". The columns in the facade were made at the mills in Louisiana and brought here by ox cart, at a cost of \$1500.00. The house is of very strong rock construction and the porch with its upper railing shows a very definite Mount Vernon influence. The house is approximately 75 feet across the front, has 16 foot ceilings and ten foot door and window openings. The facade has seven arches across the front.

This information was secured from Mrs. Helen Smith, San Antonio, Texas.

Author:

Homer H. Lansberry
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APPROVED:

Bartlett Cocke
Bartlett Cocke, District Officer

Date:

W 7/26/37